

37. (Amended) A method for modulating the activity of a polypeptide comprising an amino acid selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence of a sequence variant of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said sequence variant has G-protein mediated signal transduction activity and has at least about 70% sequence identity with the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1;

(b) the amino acid sequence of a sequence variant of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said sequence variant has G-protein mediated signal transduction activity and has at least about 80% sequence identity with the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1;

(c) the amino acid sequence of a sequence variant of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said sequence variant has G-protein mediated signal transduction activity and has at least about 90% sequence identity with the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1;

the method comprising contacting the polypeptide with a compound under conditions that allow the compound to modulate the activity of the polypeptide, wherein the activity of the polypeptide is modulated in a cell selected from the group consisting of brain cells, spleen cells, lung cells, kidney cells, skeletal muscle cells, liver cells, and heart cells.

42. (Amended) A method for modulating the activity of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of a sequence variant of the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said sequence variant has G-protein mediated signal transduction activity and is encoded by a nucleotide sequence that hybridizes to the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2 under stringent conditions comprising hybridization in 6X SSC at about 45°C followed by one or more washes in 0.2X SSC/0.1%SDS at 50-65°C; said method comprising contacting the polypeptide with a compound under conditions that allow the compound to modulate the activity of the polypeptide, wherein said modulation is in a cell selected from the group consisting of brain cells, spleen cells, lung cells, kidney cells, skeletal muscle cells, liver cells, and heart cells.

47. (Amended) A method for modulating the activity of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth as amino acids 6 to 370 of SEQ ID NO:1; said method comprising contacting the polypeptide with a compound under conditions that allow the compound to modulate the activity of the polypeptide, wherein said modulation is in a cell selected from the group consisting of brain cells, spleen cells, lung cells, kidney cells, skeletal muscle cells, liver cells, and heart cells.